

**Public Visioning Session**  
**Thursday, May 29, 2012 – 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM**  
**Community Development Board Room**

**Participants:** Ken Klemens, Mike Skenadore, Lee Pulaski, Lew Boyd, Karen Vermillion, Carl Soderberg, Annette Westphal, Kathy Thunes (Consultant) and Nick Musson (Consultant)

**1. Welcome and Introductions.**

Mr. Boyd introduced the visioning session for the Menominee Land Use and Long Range Transportation Plans.

Mr. Musson introduced himself and explained that he is a transportation planner responsible for the Long Range Transportation Plan development. He has been working for East Central for two years, working specifically on Metropolitan Planning Organization planning activities. He also worked for Southwest Michigan Regional Planning Commission doing similar activities. Mr. Musson introduced Kathy Thunes, who will be responsible for the MITW Land Use Plan development.

Mrs. Thunes explained that she is administrating the contract and developing the MITW Land Use plan. She has been with East Central for about 15 years and is a licensed professional engineer. She focuses on land use, land management and comprehensive plans.

Mr. Musson and Mrs. Thunes handed out business cards.

The rest of the participants introduced themselves.

**2. Summary of Planning Process**

Mr. Musson explained that the Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin, with the assistance of East Central Wisconsin regional planning Commission, is working on preparing two planning documents; a Long Range Transportation Plan and Land Use Plan. He noted that these plans will be used to build and document the consensus of the Menominee Indian Community for the future use priorities of the Tribe's ancestral homeland. Funding for this project was obtained through a Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Sustainable Communities Planning Grant which was awarded to Nijii Enterprise. He stated that the project is also funded by East Central through in-kind donations.

Mr. Musson handed out the livability principles and went over them with the meeting participants.

Mr. Musson explained that the purpose of this meeting is to provide opportunity for the Menominee community to learn more about the planning process, provide input, learn how to monitor the progression of the plans and how to provide written comment.

Mr. Musson handed out the Public Participation Plan (PPP) to the participants and explained that it is important for the Tribe to have a PPP in place. He explained that the PPP contains written procedures designed to foster public participation and was developed on the onset of the project and approved by the Menominee Tribal Legislature. He pointed out the project timeline located in the PPP. He went over the seven phases identified in the project timeline. He noted that on the MITW website, the public could access all the chapters when they become available. He also noted that the timeline is intense and there is a lot of information in a short period of time.

Mr. Musson explained the public notification process. He noted that the project will utilize advertisements in the paper, on the radio, and on the website (identified above) to try to connect with the public as much as possible. Meeting notices will be posted at the Tribal offices, College of the Menominee Nation, Menominee Nation News, bulletin boards at South Branch, Neopit, Zoar and Middle Village. Press releases will be sent to the Menominee Nation News and the Shawano Leader. Mr. Musson showed the participants the Newsletter template being developed to inform the public during the planning process.

Ms. Westphal asked how many newsletters will be developed throughout the planning process. Mr. Musson explained that it is anticipated that three or four newsletters will be developed throughout the process. He also explained that written comments could be emailed or mailed to Kathy Thunes or him.

Mr. Musson went through the plan adoption procedures. He noted that the draft plan will be available for review in October at the public library in Keshena, the MITW Tribal Chairman's office, the Community Development Office, College of Menominee Nation and the MITW website. He also noted that there will be a public hearing noticed and held in November.

Ms. Thunes went over the components of the Land Use Plan with the participants. She pointed out that the demographic chapter is on the website and available for viewing. She explained that the housing and economic chapters will be available shortly. She hopes to get the environmental and cultural resources chapter ready for the next task force meeting. The community facilities chapter will take a lot of time and require staff interviews. The last chapter is the Land Use chapter. She noted that the plan will have vision and goals for each chapter. She also noted that this is a land use plan and her goal is not to duplicate anything in the strategic plan.

Mr. Musson went over the components of the Long Range Transportation Plan with the participants. He noted that the plan will consist of an introduction; the MITW history; public participation approach; vision, goals and objectives; existing system; system analysis; traffic forecast; GIS supported transportation recommendations; environmental mitigation; environmental justice; financial analysis; and implementation and performance measure recommendations.

### **3. Visioning Session**

Mr. Musson and Ms. Thunes asked the participants to write down the **S**trengths, **W**eaknesses, **O**pportunities and **T**hreats (SWOT) within the Reservation. A group discussion ensued and a list of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats were compiled. Each person was given eight dots and asked to identify their two most important strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats. The group list, as well as the individual comment sheets, was collected.

### **4. Next Steps**

Mr. Musson explained that the results from this visioning session will be compiled with the results from the visioning session conducted with the Transportation/Land Use Task Force that was held on April 26th. Results from both sessions will be used to develop the vision statements, goals, objectives and strategies for the Long Range Transportation and Land Use Plans. He noted that the Transportation/Land Use Task Force will be meeting in June to develop the vision, goals and objectives. When the information is completed, it will be posted on the MITW website.

Mr. Musson asked the participants for input on how they can better connect with the public. Suggestions from participants included posting notices at county public buildings, on the MITW Facebook page and possibly utilizing a blog to interact with the public.

### **5. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.